

FEW COMMITTEES IN NEW COUNCIL

Rules Made to Conform to Conditions—Armory Contract Approved.

MANY SALARIES ARE RAISED

Rush to Get Ahead of Administrative Board—Gas Contract Discussed.

New rules adopted by the Common Council last night, on report of a special committee, provide for but seven committees in place of the fifteen standing committees under the old rules. The new committees to be named January 1 will be on Streets, Ordinances, Finance, River and Harbor, Public Buildings, Properties and Utilities, Claims, and Advertising. Other minor changes made in the rules of the Council provide for the method of calling special meetings, designed to check the activity of paid lobbyists who have run about town with papers seeking signatures calling meetings.

The Council took up a large amount of general business, some of which it was considered desirable to dispose of before January 1 to prevent reference to the Administrative Board. The Committee on Finance reported favorably a resolution authorizing a rebate of the rent due the city by the State Fair Association up to November 1, 1912, amounting to \$5,497.70, the money to be expended on the new bridge and approaches, and on other improvements in and around the Fair Grounds, which belong to the city. Under the rules, the paper had to be tabled for consideration later.

New Armory Wins Out.

Better fortune awaited the resolution approving plans and confirming the award of contract for the new First Regiment Armory, the total cost of which is to be \$121,156.44, and which went through without a dissenting vote. The resolution carries an additional appropriation of \$5,147.64, supplementing \$75,000 already available; approves plans prepared by Carnall & Johnston, architects, and the bid of the Wise Cleaning Company for fireproof construction. Major L. T. Price, who has conducted an unceasing fight for a new armory since the old building was condemned three years ago, was an interested spectator as the roll was called on the resolution, which when concurred in by the Board of Aldermen, will enable active building construction to be begun at once.

Salaries Increased.

Salaries, many of which had been rushed along to get in ahead of the Administrative Board, were voted for increases as follows: Storekeeper, Water Department, \$85 per month; clerk to the Board of Health, to \$120 per annum; keepers of Riverview and Maury Cemeteries, to \$1,200 per annum each and houses; stenographer to the Mayor, to \$900 per annum; assistant superintendent Fire Alarm Department, to \$1,250 per annum; and three operators in Fire Alarm Department to \$1,152 per annum each; meter repairers, Water Department, to \$2.75 per day each.

Then came a resolution increasing the pay of City Clerk Augustus J. Clark of the Board of Aldermen to \$1,200 per annum. As City Clerk and clerk of the Common Council he receives \$1,800, the increase making his total salary \$3,000. He is known as a careful and experienced clerk, having filled the position for more than thirty years with a painstaking accuracy which is proverbial. It is his first increase in that period, and was voted unanimously in the Council and with acclaim in both of the committees to which it has been referred.

On report of the Committee on Finance an appropriation of \$1,000 was made to the Board of Health vaccination account. In lieu of a resolution authorizing acceptance of a bid of \$1,000 for a lot belonging to the city on Maury Street, between Third and Fourth, the Committee on Finance recommended that it be sold at auction, which was adopted.

Tracks on New Bridge.

A resolution regarding construction of street railway tracks on Mayo's Bridge came from the Committee on Finance with the recommendation that it be referred to the Administrative Board. There has been controversy whether the Virginia Railway and Power Company, which has a franchise to operate over the bridge, should pay for the tracks and for the paving below, as in the case of other roadways, or whether the city should pay for the tracks, the cost being \$15,000, and charge the company a toll or rental for their use. The question will have to be settled by litigation, the pending resolution, which originated in the Street Committee, reserving all the rights of both parties and merely proposing, in order not to delay construction, that the bridge contractors, J. J. Smith & Co., lay the tracks at the bid price of \$15,000; that they be paid on their completion by the Virginia Railway and Power Company, to be re-

imbursed by the city should it win its contention of the right to own the tracks and charge toll. Mr. Umlauf thought the question of toll on the bridge once for Council action rather than for the Administrative Board, and after discussion the paper went back to the Finance Committee for further consideration.

Certain papers increasing the pay of deputy gas inspectors and increasing the clerical force in the gas office were returned by the Finance Committee without recommendation save that they be referred to the Administrative Board, which was adopted.

Funerals No Higher.

From the Board of Aldermen there came over for concurrence a resolution increasing the pay of the Police Justice to \$3,000 per annum, which was concurred in without objection, but the Council refused to concur in the action of the Board of Aldermen authorizing an increase in the cost of burials for funerals from \$2.50 to \$4. The matter was debated for some time and the ordinance finally rejected 7 to 11, those voting "no" being Messrs. Atkinson, Fuller, Haddon, Jones, Lumsden, Moore, Rogers, Seaton, Sullivan, Umlauf and Peters.

On recommendation of the Committee on Streets, certain funds were transferred from one account to another to pay off small balances overdrawn, winding up accounts for the fiscal year. The transfers included \$3,000 taken from the fund for the Church Hill tunnel, the bids having shown that the work can be done for less than the original estimates.

Street Gas Lamp Contract.

The Committee on Light reported a resolution confirming an award of contract to the American Street Lighting Company for rental of 1,200, more or less, street gas lamps at \$12.50 each per year. President Peters ruled that as there was no appropriation of the paper went, under the rules, to the Finance Committee. Chairman Ratcliffe, of the Light Committee, objected that when it would have to go to the Administrative Board, which might upset the work of his committee and seek other bidders. The paper, he said, was a mere renewal of the present contract at the same terms, the existing contract expiring January 1, and though it provides for continuation until notice is served by the city, he predicted that the city would be plunged in total darkness, if the contract were not at once renewed. Mr. Seaton objected to renewal of a rental contract, stating that \$4,000 could be saved in two years by purchase outright, and at the end of that time the city would own the apparatus. He read from a letter quoting the lamps for sale at \$1.50 each, and stated that electric lights could be put up for less than the cost of renting gas lamps. Chairman Ratcliffe insisted that the present system was satisfactory, and that it followed the advice of Superintendent Knowles. Mr. Seaton asserted that gas lamps were being allowed to burn on, right under electric lights, even after notice had been given to the Gas Department, and thought the whole matter of street lighting should go to the Administrative Board for more careful consideration than it has received at the hands of Council committees. His motion to refer it to the Administrative Board was rejected, the rule requiring reference to the Finance Committee suspended, and the contract approved.

No Refund for Bryan Lecture.

The Committee on Grounds and Buildings recommended a refund of \$50 for the rent of the City Auditorium on the night of the William J. Bryan lecture to the Baraca class of the Grove Avenue Baptist Church. Mr. Umlauf objected that the receipts had been more than \$500; that the Baraca class had gotten half, and if the city was to charge a nothing for the use of the Auditorium, it was unfair to refund to a society making \$400 to \$500 on the night when other churches and charities had scarcely made anything by their efforts.

President Peters favored the rebate, saying the Council had voted a similar one to a secret organization at the request of former Councilman Blake. He thought the city had no right to go in to the show business or rent its Auditorium in competition with licensed theatres. The resolution of refund was rejected, 6 to 12, the noes being Messrs. Atkinson, Fuller, Haddon, Jones, Lumsden, Mills, Moore, Pollock, Rogers, Seaton, Umlauf, Welsh.

The Committee on Markets reported plans and a bid of John T. Nuckolls to erect two new meathouses at the First Market on Seventeenth Street, from Main and Franklin Streets, for \$38,734. As there is no appropriation, the papers went to the Committee on Finance.

The Ordinance, Charter and Reform Committee reported a resolution increasing the pay of the park keeper of Washington Square, South, Richmond, providing that it be supplemented by an allowance as janitor of the Hastings Court, Part 2, to amount in all to \$1,200. The Council refused to suspend the rules, and the paper, notwithstanding an able fight on the part of some of the Madison Ward members, went to the Committee on Finance.

Fate of Crew in Doubt.

Boston, December 23.—The abandoned and water-logged schooner Henry R. Tilton arrived off Cape Cod to-day in tow of the steam trawler Swell, which picked up the derelict at sea. The fate of the crew of the Tilton is in doubt. They may have been rescued by some passing vessel. The Tilton was bound from Windsor, N. S., to New York, lumber laden.

MAYOR J. W. WOODS OF ROANOKE, DEAD

Succumbs to Complication of Diseases After Twelve Weeks' Fight.

FUNERAL ON CHRISTMAS DAY

City's Remarkable Tribute in Popular Demand for His Elevation to Chief Office.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Roanoke, Va., December 23.—John W. Woods died this morning after a gallant fight of twelve weeks against heavy odds. The end came peacefully after a long vigil of family and friends. Last Thursday night he was at death's door, and it was not thought possible that he could much longer survive the ravages of a complication of diseases. Friday, however, he rallied from a prolonged period of unconsciousness, and from then until Sunday morning his condition was such that physicians and relatives experienced a renewal of hope for the Mayor's recovery.

Early on Sunday Judge Woods's condition took a turn for the worse, and from that time until his death the patient remained in a comatose condition.

Present at the bedside at the final moments were Mrs. Woods, his wife, J. A. and J. R. Woods, brothers; Mrs. J. A. Woods and Miss Anna Woods, a sister, and Mrs. John M. Peddicord and Miss Anna Staples, sister of Mrs. John W. Woods. Besides Dr. T. Allen Kirk, Mr. Woods's physician, and a nurse, there were no others at the Clark Avenue home when the Mayor died. He was fifty-four years old.

Funeral on Christmas Day.

It was announced to-day that the funeral service will be held at Greene Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church at 2:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, Christmas Day.

The illness which resulted in the death of Mayor Woods was contracted the latter part of October, less than two months after he had qualified as the city's chief executive. From that time he never left his house and was confined to bed many of the weary weeks that preceded his death. Despite his condition, which grew worse from day to day, Mayor Woods found time in the early part of November to dictate a message to the Council, which was the first and only message that body ever received from him. Among the other things in his recommendation to the Council, he urged that Elmwood Park be used as a site for the proposed municipal buildings. His idea was that a creditable City Hall and jail could not be built with the amount of money which will remain when all the ground in the vicinity of the present City Hall site has been purchased.

Was Signally Honored.

Mayor Woods possessed all of character and ability that is required to mould a big man. Such honors as he received at the hands of the people he regarded as trusts, and he felt a responsibility to those whom he served. It probably was this one trait more than anything else that induced him to become a candidate for Mayor of Roanoke at a time when no other man seemed able to meet the peculiar conditions.

He was signally honored by his city, in that he was sought for the highest office in the command of the municipality. He showed his loyalty to the city in that he accepted the office, though it meant to him a sacrifice of time and labor. It was when he really found that the people wanted him as a candidate, being convinced of the fact by petitions and mass-meetings, that he finally permitted his name to go before the people. In the Democratic primary election of May 4, 1912, following his decision to enter the primary, Mayor Woods went to work and took an active part and interest in the campaign. The primary was hotly contested, but Mayor Woods won out by a substantial majority over his two opposing candidates, J. A. Page and H. Cutchin. He had no opposition in the regular election last June. He qualified as Mayor September 1, and took up the duties which S. P. Selfert had been performing several months, following the ousting of Mayor Cutchin.

A Church Worker.

Mayor Woods was a man of integrity and of Christian belief and practice. He was a member of the Greene Memorial Methodist Church, and was one of the board of stewards, an active worker in the Sunday school, and a liberal contributor to church and charitable work.

He was one of the most gifted speakers in Roanoke, and his ready fund of knowledge prepared him for almost every occasion. He was a favorite at banquets and after-dinner orators, and there were few occasions of the kind in the city at which he was not an honored guest.

Born in Roanoke County.

Mayor John William Woods was a native of Roanoke County, and all his life was spent within the borders of his native State. He was born at Castawa, Roanoke County, July 27, 1858, and was the son of the late William and Sarah Jane Woods. He was of Scotch-Irish descent, his great-grandfather, Michael Woods, having emigrated to America from England in the early part of the eighteenth century.

In his early life Mayor Woods studied in the county public schools, and later attended Roanoke College at Salem. Determining to study law, he attended the University of Virginia, and was admitted to the bar in 1881. He located in Roanoke city and began his legal practice.

His ability was soon recognized, and in 1889 he was chosen to represent Roanoke city, Roanoke and Craig Counties in the Virginia House of Delegates. He served but one year of his term in the Legislature. In 1892 he again entered public life, and was appointed judge of the Hastings Court to succeed Judge William Gordon Robinson. His decisions on the bench were seldom reversed by the higher court, and he was twice re-elected to the same position by the Legislature. In all his career as judge covered a period of seventeen years.

After leaving the bench, Mayor Woods engaged in the practice of his profession, and also was interested in a number of business enterprises, chief among which was the City National Bank. When the bank was organized, in 1906, Mayor Woods was chosen its president, and was acting in that capacity at the time of his death.

OBITUARY

Charles E. Schaap.

Charles E. Schaap, for many years a resident of Richmond, but for the last twenty years a resident of Colorado,

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IMPORTANT CARDS ARE LAID ON TABLE

(Continued From First Page.)

explain the conditions under which the allies are ready to conclude peace," M. Novakovich announced. Then he proceeded to read the demands of the Balkan states.

When he finished all eyes shifted to the representatives of the Sultan. Re-

chad Pasha arose again and in his habitual slow manner asked for a written copy of the proposals. M. Novakovich ordered the secretary to make the copy, and the delegates left their seats and joined in animated and cordial conversation.

During the long wait for the copy of the demands, and while disclaiming any desire to enter into a discussion of their merits, the Turks said that speaking unofficially, they considered the allies' terms to have been designed for the purpose of breaking off the conference.

Among diplomats here the opinion prevails that, notwithstanding the conditions presented by the allies, and what the allies declare are terms which cannot be reduced, peace ultimately will be concluded. The Turks fear further reverses and irreparable losses, and the allies, who already have obtained success which in their rosiest dreams they never had expected, fear to endanger the positions they have gained.

The hardest point is Adrianople, on which an agreement between the delegates perhaps would be difficult if its solution were attempted directly by the conference.

DEATHS

MANNONI.—Died, at her residence, 516 North Fourth Street, MRS. LUCY MANNONI, at 2 P. M. December 23, 1912, a native of Corsica, province of France. Funeral notice later.

BODY OF JUDGE PHILEGAR TAKEN TO CHRISTIANSBURG.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Bristol, Va., December 23.—The body of Judge Archer A. Philegar, the distinguished jurist and lawyer, who died here Sunday, was sent to Christiansburg this evening. The funeral party occupied a private car of the Virginia and Southwestern Railway. The funeral will be held at Christiansburg to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock.

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But it may be brought about through the mediation of one power or several powers of Europe.

If mediation through the great European powers is impossible or unsuccessful, others may be appealed to, first of all, the United States.

It is even rumored that there is a possibility of asking mediation by the Pope. It is recalled that Pope Leo XIII. was entrusted by Bismarck with the settling of the dispute between Germany and Spain over the Caroline Islands. In case His Holiness were mediator in the present controversy, his action would be entirely independent, as none of the belligerents Catholic power.

The conference of ambassadors meet again January 2. Meanwhile German ambassador has gone to Lin, and M. Cambon, the French

bassador, is spending the holidays at Paris. Count Morsdorff, the Austrian ambassador, and Sir Ward Grey are in the country Christmas.

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